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Message Text

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ORIGIN EA-09

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 NSC-05 NSCE-00 PA-02 PRS-01
USIA-15 SIG-02 /047 R

DRAFTED BY EA/P:STAFF:VC
APPROVED BY EA/P:MSMITH
DESIRED DISTRIBUTION
NSC ELECTRONICALLY FOR MR. GLEYSTEEN
----------191821Z 100061 /53
R 191625Z JAN 77
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO ALL EAST ASIAN AND PACIFIC DIPLOMATIC POSTS
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
INFO CINCPAC
COGARD
;NA/GOVGUAM
TREASURY

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, XC, US

SUBJECT: JANUARY 19 EA PRESS SUMMARY

1. INDOCHINA

LAOTIAN AF PILOT ORDERED BOMB ANTIGOVT TRIBAL GROUPS
DEFECTED TO THAILAND DURING MISSION (WP).

VN FON TRADE MINISTER ARRIVES VIENTIANE ON FRIENDLY VISIT,
REPORTEDLY INVITED BY LAOTIAN TRADE/INDUSTRY MINISTRIES
(REUTER VIENTIANE).

PEOPLE ON CON SON REPORTEDLY PLAN TURN ISALND INTO TOURIST
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CENTER W/STATE HELP (REUTER HK).

COMPLETION RR FROM HANOI-SAIGON WILL LINK 10,000-MI
NETWORK THAT WOULD PERMIT TRAVELLERS TO JOURNEY FROM EUROPE
TO SVN VIA RAIL (REUTER, LAT 1/18).

2. THAILAND/BURMA

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AMB WHITEHOUSE DENIES RUMORS THAT US MIL FORCES WILL RETURN THAILAND; PRAISES RTG FOR CARING FOR OVER 100,000 INDO-CHINESE REFUGEES (REUTER BANGKOK).

RTG FONMIN/HI-RANKING MIL OFFICERS BEGIN 4-DAY VISIT TO BURMA TO PROMOTE GOOD RELS (REUTER BANGKOK).

3. AUSTRALIA

DEATH TOLL IN SYDNEY TRAIN DISASTER EXPECTED TO TOP 80--RESCUE WORKERS HAVING DIFFICULTY REMOVING BODIES FROM CARS CRUSHED BY HEAVY CONCRETE BRIDGE (NYT, SUN, CHITRIB; WSTAR 1/18).

4. PHILIPPINES

MANILA AIRPORT'S DOMESTIC TERMINAL BUILDING BURNED TO GROUND--DAMAGE ESTIMATED AT 3 MILL DOLS--INT'L TERMINAL UNAFFECTED (REUTER MANILA).

USSR SIGNS CONTRACT W/PHILS FOR DELIVERY 600,000 MT SUGAR FIRST HALF 1977--PRICE NOT GIVEN (WP).

5. KOREA

LAT (1/17) CARRIES STORY (GLOBE 1/18) OF HIRC INVESTIGA-TION TACOMA SHIPBUILDING'S QUESTIONABLE PAYMENTS JONG NAK KIM.
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ROK/CANADA TO HOLD TALKS RE SK TEXTILE EXPORTS IN OTTAWA STARTING 1/24. KOREANS SEEKING EASING CANADA'S CLOTHING IMPORT RESTRICTIONS (REUTER SEOUL).

6. CHINA

FACTORY WORKERS IN HANGCHOW SAY TORTURED BY RADICAL OFFICIALS IN WHAT LOCAL ADMINISTRATOR CALLED "CIVIL WAR" IN CHEKIANG PROV DURING 1975. CITY SUFFERED 2 MAJOR OUT-BREAKS FACTIONAL VIOLENCE IN PAST 3 YRS, ACCORDING LOCAL OFFICIALS. FIGHTING BLAMED ON "GANG OF FOUR" (REUTER SUN).

CHINA EDGES FURTHER TOWARD ACKNOWLEDGING IMPORTANCE FON TRADE, ADMITS IMPORTANT EQUIPMENT IMPORTED; OPPOSITION TO IMPORTS TIED TO "GANG OF FOUR," INDICATING DESIRE INCREASE IMPORTS (JOC SPEC).

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GWERTZMAN (NYT) NOTES SECSTATE EXPRESSES SENTIMENTS AS TERM EXPIRES. REPORTS HAK REMARKS THAT MAO HAD HABIT SPEAKING IN SOCRATIC MANNER--ASKING QUESTIONS TO MAKE POINT; MAO "BRILLIANT" IN ABILITY DISCUSS EVERY AREA WORLD IN HARD-BOILED/NON-IDEOLOGICAL POINT VIEW. HAK QUOTED MAO COMMENT TO FRG'S SCHMIDT THAT NO NATION COULD BE POWERFUL IF GAVE UP IN WAR AFTER "LOSING ONLY 50,000 MEN"--AN ALLUSION TO VN.

GLOBE ITEM CITES SOME OF CHINA'S "BEST OF THE POP NUMBERS" AS LISTED PEOPLE'S DAILY. "HITS" INCLUDE "INDIGNANTLY CONDEMN THE WANG-CHAN-CHIANG-YAO GANG OF FOUR," "DOWN WITH THE ANTI-PARTY CLIQUE OF THE GANG OF FOUR," "HAIL THE GREAT VICTORY OF THE CRUSHING OF THE ANTI-PARTY CLIQUE," AND "EVERYONE IS REJOICING OVER THE WIPING OUT OF THE FOUR PESTS."

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,. JAPAN

MONDALE'S 9-DAY WORLD TOUR, INCL TOKYO STOP, BEGINS SUNDAY (TREWHITT, SUN).

JAPAN ASKS US' PERMISSION REPROCESS SPENT NUKE FUEL ACQUIRED FROM THIS COUNTRY. DOS 1/18 DENIED AS "JUST NOT TRUE" TOKYO REPORT SAYING JAPAN TOLD US IT WOULD GO AHEAD W/PROJECT REPROCESS OWN USED NUKE FUEL (REUTER, NYT).

CANADA/JAPAN TO BEGIN TALKS IN TOKYO NEXT WK ON REVISION 1960 NUKE POWER COOPERATION AGREEMENT. CANADA PROPOSED MTG TO INCORPORATE SAFEGUARD CLAUSE DESIGNED PREVENT USE USED FUEL FOR NUKE EXPLOSIVE PRODUCTION (REUTER TOKYO).

QUESTIONED ABOUT REPORTS TOKYO GOV'S INTENTION REFUSE PORT ENTRY TO BRITISH SHIP CARRYING ARMS DISPLAY, CITY PORT AUTHORITY DIRECTOR SAID TOKYO GOVT "NOT YET REACHED" CONCLUSION. BRITISH EMB HAS CONCLUDED MISSION LOST, TERMS AFFAIR "EXTREMELY DISAPPOINTING" (KAMM, NYT).

GOJ PUTTING MAJOR EFFORT INTO COMPLETING '77 BUDGET, AIMED AT STIMULATING ECONOMY, BY 1/20. FUKUDA ADMIN HAS APPVD SUPPLEMENTARY BUDGET, WHICH INCLUDES 1.2 BIL DOLS FOR PUBLIC WORKS; SMOOTH PASSAGE EXPECTED THRU DIET LATER THIS MONTH (REUTER, LAT 1/17).

ANSWERING QUERY FROM ENERGY CMTE US MAYOR CONF, CARTER'S ENERGY COORDINATOR SCHLESINGER SAYS NEW ADMIN WOULD NOT RULE OUT SENDING ALASKAN OIL TO JAPAN, STATES "SWAPPING ARRANGEMENTS" MIGHT BE MADE IN WHICH FON OIL OTHERWISE

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DESTINED FOR JAPAN WOULD COME TO US (AP, WP).

JAPANESE AUTO MFRS REPORT STRONG EXPORT MARKET BOOSTED '76 CAR PRODUCTION (SUN, WP). WHILE TOTAL EXPORTS UP 25 PCT, THOSE TO US DOWN 3.8 PCT (WSJ).
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NIPPON ELECTRIC PLANS BEGIN MFG ELECTRONIC PRODUCTS BY END '77 THRU NY SUBSIDIARY (WSJ).

TOKYO 50-MEMBER POLICE SQUAD BEGINS HUNT FOR "TUESDAY ARSONIST"--FIREBUG WHO SETS BLAZES AROUND CAPITAL ALWAYS ON TUESDAYS (REUTER TOKYO).

TRAFFIC ACCIDENTS IN JAPAN DECREASED LAST YEAR FOR 7TH CONSECUTIVE YEAR (REUTER, WP).

8. VIETNAM/JAPAN

THARP (CSM) REPORTS VN/JAPAN MUTUALLY DESIRE BECOME MAJOR TRADE PARTNERS. JAPAN'S HOPES DEVELOP UNDERSEA OIL FIELDS OFF MEKING DELTA/ACQUIRE OTHER RESOURCES FROM N HALF VN CONFORMS W/VN'S PLANS BOOST PRODUCTION DURING CURRENT 5-YR PLAN. THARP CONCLUDES GOOD RELS W/VN CONSIDERED ESSENTIAL TO MAINTAIN STABILITY JAPANESE INTERESTS IN REMAINDER SEA.

9. INDONESIA

GENEVA SHIPPING CO EXEC RAPPAPORT/HIS ATTYS HAVE FILED AFFIDAVITS IN NY COURT ASKING THAT PERTAMINA OIL CO IMMEDIATELY RESUME PAYMENTS ON SUPERTANKERS IT HAS CHARTERED. EXEC ALSO FORMALLY DENIED ACCUSATIONS BY FIRM'S FORMER PRES-DIRECTOR THAT HE TRIED DEFRAUD PERTAMINA (LIPSKY, WSJ)

COMMENT AND ANALYSIS

10. CHINA

STEIN (CSM) LOOKS OVER US-CHINA RELS, WONDERS IF WILL GROW/WITHER. REVIEWS SHANGHAI COMMUNIQUE. BELIEVES REAGAN'S CHALLENGE/INCREASINGLY VISIBLE TAIWAN INDEPENDENCE MOVEMENT HAVE COMPLICATED NORMALIZATION PROCESS,
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REINTRODUCED EMOTIONALISM INTO ISSUE. SAYS FACTORS

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SURFACED IN 2 NATL CONFS ON US-CHINA RELS: 1ST SPONSORED BY "CHINA LOBBY" GROUPS; 2ND BY US-CHINA PEOPLES FRIENDSHIP ASSN/OTHER LIBERAL-LEANING GROUPS. SAYS BOTH CONFS CALLED ON PREMISE US POLICY TOWARD CHINA WILL BE GREATLY AFFECTED BY CARTER'S INAUGURATION. ADDS CHINATS RECOGNIZE INFLU-ENCE US BUSINESS IN POL DECISIONS, HAVE TAKEN STEPS ESTABLISH LONG-TERM BONDS W/US IN EVENT BREAK IN RELS.

11. GENERAL

SOUTHERLAND (CSM) SEES TEST COMING IN CONGRESS ON US AID TO REPRESSIVE REGIMES IN PHILS/SK. NOTES HUMAN RTS BECAME ISSUE IN PRES ELECTION AFTER CARTER ATTACKED FORD ADMIN FOR FAILING USE AID LEVERAGE TO ENCOURAGE REFORMS. QUOTES NEXT SECSTATE VANCE THAT US WILL GIVE GREATER EMPHASIS THAN IN PAST TO HUMAN RTS.

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MCARTHUR (LAT 1/18) DESCRIBES SPLIT IN MALAYSIAN CP, OPINES ITS COMPLEX PROBLEMS ILLUSTRATE PARTY FRICTIONS ELSEWHERE. SAYS PEKING/HANOI GLOSS OVER EMBARRASSING DETAILS WHEN PROCLAIM CURRENT LINE THAT VN VICTORY INSURES "FAVORABLE" REV CONDITIONS IN SEA. NOTES VN BRAND COMMUNISM VIEWED W/SUSPICION BY CPS IN MALAYSIA/THAILAND/PHILS. STATES IN LAOS, USSR STEPS UP AID, PRC SHOWS NO SIGNS WITHDRAWING FROM 2 N PROVS THAT ARE "VIRTUALLY ANNEXED," WHILE VN STILL HAVE 2 DIVS IN NE/PLAIN OF JARS. SEES STANDOFF REASSUR-ING THAILAND. CONCLUDES, W/"INTERNAL RUMBLING," HANOI NOT LIKELY GIVE IMMEDIATE ATTN TO FURTHERING REV IN SEA. KISSINGER

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